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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Samuel OZIL — Conf. 8090

Application No. 10/537,294 — Group 3749

Filed June 2, 2005 — Examiner S. Miller

PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF A PANEL OF COMPOSITE MATERIAL WITH STIFFENING STRIPS AND PANEL THUS OBTAINED

APPEAL BRIEF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 9, 2009

Sir:

This Appeal Brief is being submitted under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 41.37. This is an appeal from the final rejections of the Examiner in the final Office Action of August 6, 2008. This brief is submitted with the requisite fee of $540.00.

A Notice of Appeal was filed on December 8, 2008.

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I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party of interest in this appeal is DELTA PROTECTION of Bagnols-Sur-Ceze, France, i.e., the assignee of the application by way of assignment (Reel/Frame 017398/0007).

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals and interferences.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 and 7-18 are pending and rejected. The present appeal is taken from the final rejection of claims 1-4 and 7-18 in the final Office Action of August 6, 2008.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No claim amendments were filed subsequent to the final rejection of the claims on appeal in the final Office Action of August 6, 2008. The claims were last amended per the response filed April 11, 2008.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

As disclosed in the first paragraph on page one of the present specification, the invention relates to a ventilator unit for garments such as pressure suits or the like, for the purpose of ventilating them with an ambient fluid such as air, and it finds a particularly advantageous application for

ventilating the insides of antinuclear or antibacteriological confinement suits, for certain garments for providing protection in a hospital environment, for garments complying with standards that are applicable in particular in the nuclear, bacteriological, chemical, and biological, etc. fields, and even for garments for reducing thermal stress, etc., for example.

Claim is the only independent claim in this case.

As recited in claim 1, the ventilator unit for ventilating the inside of a garment with an ambient fluid comprises: a first leaktight case (1) having at least one inlet opening (2) suitable for sucking in said fluid, and an outlet opening (3), and also a first electrical connection passage (4) (see page 4, lines 10-24). The ventilator unit further contains a filter cartridge (5) and a means (6) for mounting the filter cartridge (5) in association with the inlet opening (2) of the first case (1); an impeller (7) having at least one inlet port (8) for sucking in said fluid contained in said first case (1), and an outlet orifice (9) for delivering said sucked-in fluid, said impeller (7) having a drive motor (10) controllable via a power supply input (11); and a means (12) for mounting said impeller (7) in the inside (13) of the first case (1) (see page 4, line 24 to page 5, line 30). The ventilator unit contains a duct (14) for connecting the outlet orifice (9) of the impeller (7) to the outside (15) of the first case (1), said duct (14) passing in leaktight manner through the outlet opening (3) of the first

case (1) (see page 5, lines 29-34). The ventilator unit also has a second case (20); a second electrical connection passage (21) made through the wall (49) of said second case (20) (see page 5, line 35 to page 6, line 5). It also has a source (23) suitable for delivering electrical energy to an output terminal (24), said source (23) being disposed in the inside (25) of the second case (20); an electronic control circuit (26); and a means (27) for associating the first and second cases (1, 20) in such a manner that the first and second electrical connection passages (4, 21) form a single leakproof third electrical connection passage (28) (see page 6, lines 6-33). It also has a flow meter (29) disposed inside the duct (14), said flow meter having an outlet (30) suitable for delivering an electrical signal representative of the flow rate of fluid passing along the duct (14); a first electrical connector (31) for connecting the output (30) of the flow meter (29) to a first input (32) of the electronic control circuit (26); a second electrical connector (33) for connecting a first control output (34) of the electronic control circuit (26) to the control input (11) of the motor (10) for driving the impeller; and a third electrical connector (35) for connecting the electrical energy source (23) to a power supply input (36) of the electronic control circuit (26) (page 6, line 34 to page 7, line 6). The electronic control circuit (26) further includes an output (37) suitable for delivering a first alarm signal when the level of electrical

energy delivered by said source (23) drops below a determined threshold value, a converter controllable from a control input (51), said converter being adapted to transform an electrical signal into a sound signal; and a fifth electrical connector (52) for connecting the control terminal (51) of the converter (50) to that output (37) of the electronic control circuit that is adapted to deliver said first alarm signal, said converter (50) being situated in said duct (14) so that the converter (50) is directly inside the fluid flowing in the duct (see page 7, lines 7-10 and original claims 5 and 6).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTIONS ON APPEAL

The first issue on appeal is whether claims 1-4, 7-9, and 13-16 would have been obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over BERGER (US 5,586,861) in view of HOAGUE (US 6,186,140). See pages 2-7 of the final Office Action.

The second and last issue on appeal is whether claims 10-12 and 17-18 would have been obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over BERGER in view of HOAGUE in further view of JENSEN (US 4,821,709)S. See pages 8-9 of the final Action.

VII. ARGUMENTS

A. BERGER in view of HOAGUE

On pages 2-7 of the final Office Action, claims 1-4, 7-9, and 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being

obvious over BERGER (US 5,586,861) in view of HOAGUE (US 6,186,140).

The rejection falls, because neither BERGER nor HOAGUE, nor any combination thereof discloses or suggests each and every element of claim 1 (i.e., the sole independent claim), as required to support a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

(i) BERGER fails to disclose or suggest the flow meter disposed inside the duct and a converter adapted to transform an electrical signal into a sound signal, wherein said converter is situated in said duct and is directly inside the fluid flowing as required in claim 1.

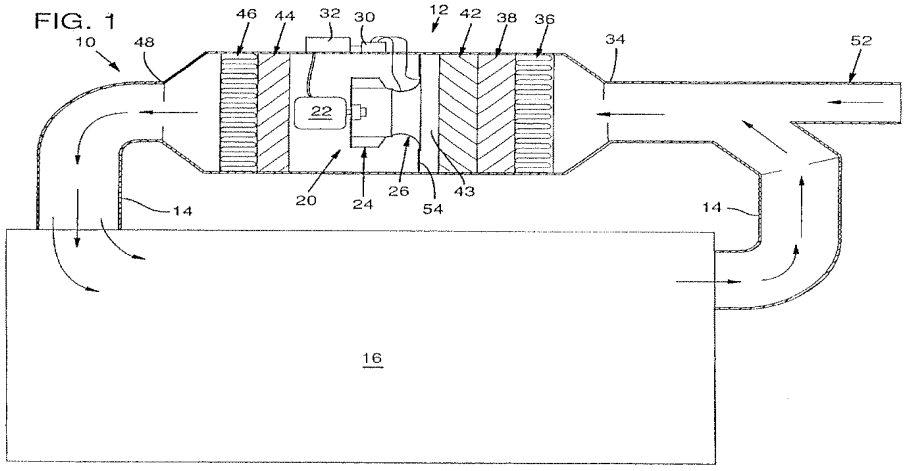
Independent claim 1 calls for a ventilation unit of garment and requires a flow meter (29) disposed inside the duct (14) and a converter (50) adapted to transform an electrical signal into a sound signal, and said converter (50) is situated in said duct (14) so that the converter (50) is directly inside the fluid flowing in the duct of independent claim 1. The references simply do not disclose or suggest this feature.

On page 3 of the final Office Action, the Office argues that BERGER discloses "a flow meter (30) disposed inside the duct (Fig. 1)" and "the flow meter has a converter (converting pressure readings to airflow readings) being situated in said duct (14) so that the converter is directly inside the fluid flowing in the duct (Fig. 1)." Similarly, on page 2 of the Advisory Action of November 26, 2008, the Office describes BERGER and states that "it should be apparent that the flow

meter (30) that contains the converter measures the air flow from within duct (14) with the airflow being continual through the entire housing." Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that BERGER fails to disclose or suggest that for which it is offered.

BERGER does not disclose a converter inside the fluid flowing in the duct as claimed. Instead, BERGER discloses a flow meter/pressure sensor. However, the flow meter/pressure sensor (30) in BERGER is not inside the duct (14) in the ventilation system of BERGER. Rather, it is positioned on the outside of the central air station handler (120). This is evident from the description at column 3, lines 60-65 and the description of Figure 1 at column 4, lines 15-20 of BERGER. Moreover, see Figure 1 of BERGER as shown below which illustrates this point.

FIG. 1



This Figure clearly depicts the flow meter (30) positioned on the outside wall of the central air station handler (12) and not inside the duct (14) of the system in BERGER. It is clear that the duct (14) is not the central station air handler 12. And even if the central station air handler 12 were considered to be duct (which it is not), the flow meter (30) is clearly positioned on the outside wall of the central station air handler 12. It is not inside either the central air station handler (12). Nor is it inside the duct (14).

Accordingly, in the system of BERGER, the flow meter (30) is positioned on the outside wall of the central air station handler (12) and not inside the duct (14) as required in claim 1 of the instant application. Nothing in BERGER discloses or suggests a converter inside the fluid flowing in the duct (14) as required in claim 1.

The above argument is further supported by the Office's position in the final Office Action, wherein it was indicated that BERGER does not teach an alarm. See, for instance, page 5 of the final Office Action. At the bottom of page 5, the Office states "it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the ventilator of BERGER in view of the alarm of HOAGUE." Thus, as acknowledged by the Office, BERGER does not disclose a converter/alarm positioned directly inside the fluid flowing in the duct as required by claim 1.

For these reasons, BERGER clearly does not disclose or suggest the above-noted features of independent claim 1.

(ii) The secondary reference of HOAGUE fails to remedy the above-noted deficiencies of BERGER.

Contrary to the Office's position, HOAGUE does not teach a converter which is directly inside the fluid flowing the duct.

As can be seen in Figure 2 of HOAGUE, the piezo alarm 202 is not in the air stream or air duct, but only in the housing 134 outside the blower 118 and in no case inside the blower duct, as it is seen in full line on the rear view of HOAGUE.

More specifically, it is not accurate to say, with respect to HOAGUE, that HOAGUE's converter is located in duct 130, because the converter, although located in unit 130, is not in a duct for the air stream. Unit 130 is only a housing 134 surrounding a part of the duct in which the air is flowing, and the converter 202 is located between the external wall of the duct and the internal wall of this part of the unit 130. In this part of the unit 130, the duct is the passageway of the air in the blower, and the wall of the duct is the wall of the blower 18.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2 of HOAGUE, the unit has two different functions. The first is that it is a housing surrounding a duct (the blower 118) described in the

disclosure as a housing 134, and another in which it is a portion of a duct for the airflow, this last part being described by HOAGUE as the "main housing 134" (column 3, lines 23-24). Note that in HOAGUE, the same reference numeral 134 has been used for the two different housings, in Figure 4 the one on the left and the main one on the right.

Please see the attached schematic showing an exploded longitudinal cross-sectional view of HOAGUE's device. This schematic, which is based on Figures 1 and 2 of HOAGUE, was submitted with the response filed September 19, 2007.

As can be seen, the shaded path is the air stream or air duct in the air filter unit 130, and only this shaded path can be considered as an air duct. It comprises the main housing 134 and the passage duct into the blower 118, the blower being located in the housing 134, its input being connected to the main housing 134 as shown at 118, and its output being connected to the output 112.

The dividing wall between the housing 134 and the main housing 134 is the wall of the battery pack 120, the front face of the blower motor 118 (not shown in Figure 2) and the frame of the filter 124/128.

Based on this disclosure, it is not accurate to say that the second case is defined in HOAGUE as element 130 as a whole, in which the converter which Applicant says is the fan 118 is such but it is also in the duct or the airflow

passageway located in case 130 between the orifice 112 and the outside of the first case 134. In fact, as seen from the attached schematic, and reference back to the HOAGUE disclosure, that the converter 202 is not in the shaded path.

Consequently, nothing in HOAGUE discloses or suggests that the converter/alert alarm is positioned in the air output duct.

Further, it should also be understood that the air filter unit 130 of HOAGUE comprises two separate housings:

1. one in which are positioned all the electrical devices 120, 116, 114, which however is not a duct for the air stream, this housing surrounding a part of the air duct, that is, the passage of the stream and the blower, and

2. the other housing, the main housing 134 with the frame of filter 124/128, in which the air does actually flow as indicated by column 3, lines 22 and 23 of HOAGUE, this main housing being a duct for the air stream.

Thus, as can be seen in HOAGUE's Figure 2, the piezo alarm 202 is not in the air stream or air duct, but only in the housing 134 outside the blower 118 and in no case inside the blower duct, because it is seen in full line on the rear view of Figure 2 of HOAGUE.

See also column 3, lines 63-67 of HOAGUE, in which it is stipulated that:

> "To provide further filter end of service life alert capability to the respiratory system user, a piezo alarm 202 electrically coupled to the system usage monitoring circuit provides an audible alert upon the filter assembly 124 reaching the end of its useful service life (emphasis applied)".

Thus, it will be seen that the function of HOAGUE's device is as follows: the converter 202 generates noise in all the parts of the air filter unit 130 and, because of migration, constitutes a sound amplifier for better hearing of the alarm by the user. In contrast, however, according to the present invention, the sound is transferred directly and only by the air stream.

It is also clear that the converter 202 of HOAGUE provides an audible alert on or upon the filter assembly 124, and not in the air stream.

This teaching in HOAGUE in no way suggests the arrangement of the ventilator unit of claim 1.

Again, a main feature of the ventilator unit of claim 1 is that the sound converter is directly positioned in the fluid flowing in the duct which is passing through the housing of the ventilator. This configuration is important, because as sound is propagated in the fluid, and moreover in circulation, the person wearing the garment is informed earlier, providing even more safety, than when the audible alarm is only in the housing of the ventilator as in the

device disclosed in HOAGUE, and not in the fluid passing in the air duct as required in claim 1.

Thus, the arrangement in HOAGUE is clearly different from and in no way suggests that of the ventilator unit of claim 1, and the above-noted beneficial result as discussed on page 10, lines 19-28 of Applicant's specification.

In short: nothing in HOAGUE discloses or suggests that the alert alarm is positioned in the air output duct; and as a result, the present invention cannot be anticipated or rendered obvious by the combination of BERGER and HOAGUE.

Further, the Office's argument that the definition of duct does not require air flow to be present stands in direct contrast to claim 1, which clearly requires the converter to be inside the fluid flowing in the duct.

For these reasons, the combination of BERGER and HOAGUE fails to meet each and every element of the claims.

(iii) Teaching away with respect to HOAGUE

Further, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of HOAGUE and BERGER teaches away from ventilator unit of claim 1.

The Office's position with respect to HOAGUE is inaccurate. In particular, it is not accurate to say that all the filtered air is flowing in the two housings 134, that is, the housing 134 and the main housing 134. Such an arrangement

would not be considered for the claimed invention, since it would be dangerous to position all electric circuit boards, battery back, etc., directly in the flowing air that is breathed by a person. This is so because an explosion or a gas emanation, or an electric arc or the like could be very dangerous to the person, especially in the case of a device such as a head cover 102.

Consequently, the Office's characterization of HOAGUE is inaccurate as it would render the device in HOAGUE inoperable for its intended purpose. In this regard, it is well established that, if a proposed modification would render the prior art invention being modified unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, then there is no suggestion or motivation to make the proposed modification. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2143.01, V. Thus, the Office's characterization of HOAGUE is inaccurate and would in fact teach away from claimed invention.

(iv) Neither BERGER nor HOAGUE nor their combination discloses a duct inside a case as required in claim 1

The ventilation unit of claim 1 requires "a duct (14) for connecting the outlet orifice (9) of the impeller (7) to the outside (15) of the first case (1), said duct (14) passing in leaktight manner through the outlet opening (3) of the first case (1)." Accordingly, claim 1 clearly requires a duct inside

a case. However, the prior art does not teach a duct inside a case.

As depicted above, Figure 1 of BERGER shows a duct 14, but it is not inside a case. HOAGUE suffers the same deficiency as discussed above.

(v) The vastly different art of ventilation units for commercial buildings in BERGER is not predictive of ventilation units for clothes garment.

It should be noted that the primary reference of BERGER is not related to the subject matter invention of claim 1. BERGER relates to an air flow measuring inlet cone for a centrifugal fan within a commercial ventilation system in a building and methods of measuring air flow therein. BERGER mentions nothing respect to ventilating the inside of a garment, such as a pressure suit or the like, as required in claim 1 of the instant application. Yet, despite the vast differences between a commercial building and a garment, the Office, on page 2 of the Advisory Action, states that "the ventilator unit BERGER merely needs to be capable of being in a garment and in this case the ventilation unit when sized to the garment is capable of to work the same as applicants."

Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that the Office has failed to establish *prima facie* obviousness based on such.

The mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the results would have been predictable to one of ordinary skill in the art. *KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 550 U.S. ___, ___, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007). In this regard, in KSR, it was determined that if a technique has been used to improve one device, and a person of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that it would improve similar devices in the same way, using the technique is obvious unless its actual application is beyond his or her skill.

In the instant case, the commercial ventilation system in a building of BERGER and the ventilation system of the garment of claim 1 are not similar devices as evident by the clear differences in material, size, and structural design between a building and a clothing garment.

Furthermore, even if the ventilation system for a commercial building could be sized to fit a garment, this is not what is necessary for obviousness. Instead, what is necessary is why the skilled artisan would do this. However, there is no suggestion in BERGER or HOAGUE that the teachings therein could be modified or even applied for use in a clothing garment.

Based on the clear differences in material, size, and structural design between a building and a clothing garment, it is believed that a ventilation system for one is not

predictive for the other. Accordingly, there would be no reasonable expectation of success of modifying the teachings in BERGER for use in a garment. No reasonable rationale has been provided to combine the teachings of BERGER with that of HOAGUE.

Thus, the rejection should fail, because neither BERGER nor HOAGUE nor any combination thereof discloses or suggests each and every element of independent claim 1, namely, the feature requiring the ventilator unit to comprise a flow meter (29) disposed inside the duct (14) and a converter (50) adapted to transform an electrical signal into a sound signal, wherein said converter (50) is situated in said duct (14) so that the converter (50) is directly inside the fluid flowing in the duct of independent claim 1. As such, the cited references cannot render obvious claim 1. Thus, claim 1 and all claims dependent thereon are novel and unobvious over BERGER and HOAGUE.

The obviousness rejection is believed to be overcome, and reversal thereof is requested.

B. BERGER and HOAGUE in view of JENSEN

On pages 8-9 of the final Office Action, claims 10-12 and 17-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over BERGER (US 5,586,861) in view of HOAGUE (US 6,186,140) in further view of JENSEN (US 4,821,709).

This rejection is respectfully traversed for the same reasons forth above with respect to the traversal of BERGER and HOAGUE.

JENSEN fails to remedy the above-noted deficiencies in BERGER and HOAGUE with respect to independent claim 1.

JENSEN was relied upon as allegedly disclosing a second alarm. See page 8 of the final Office Action. However, JENSEN mentions nothing with respect to the claim features requiring the ventilator unit to comprise a flow meter (29) disposed inside the duct (14) and a converter (50) adapted to transform an electrical signal into a sound signal, wherein said converter (50) is situated in said duct (14) so that the converter (50) is directly inside the fluid flowing in the duct of independent claim 1

The rejection falls, because neither BERGER nor HOAGUE, nor JENSEN, nor any combination thereof discloses or suggests the above-noted feature of claim 1 (i.e., the sole independent claim), as required to support a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Thus, claim 1 is believed to be novel and patentable over the combination of BERGER, HOAGUE, and JENSEN. Since claims 10-12 and 17-18 depend on claim 1, these dependent claims are also considered to be novel and unobvious over the combination of BERGER, HOAGUE, and JENSEN for the same reasons.

Thus, reversal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

VIII. CONCLUSION

It is believed to be apparent from the above discussion that the rejections on appeal should be reversed. Thus, reversal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

/Jay F. Williams/

Jay F. Williams, Reg. No. 48,036
Attorney for Appellant
209 Madison Street, Suite 500
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone (703) 521-2297

JFW/ml

CLAIM APPENDIX:

1. A ventilator unit for ventilating the inside of a garment such as a pressure suit or the like with an ambient fluid, the unit being characterized by the fact that it comprises:

a first leaktight case (1) having at least one inlet opening (2) suitable for sucking in said fluid, and an outlet opening (3), and also a first electrical connection passage (4);

a filter cartridge (5);

means (6) for mounting the filter cartridge (5) in association with the inlet opening (2) of the first case (1);

an impeller (7) having at least one inlet port (8) for sucking in said fluid contained in said first case (1), and an outlet orifice (9) for delivering said sucked-in fluid, said impeller (7) having a drive motor (10) controllable via a power supply input (11);

means (12) for mounting said impeller (7) in the inside (13) of the first case (1);

a duct (14) for connecting the outlet orifice (9) of the impeller (7) to the outside (15) of the first case (1), said duct (14) passing in leaktight manner through the outlet opening (3) of the first case (1);

a second case (20);

a second electrical connection passage (21) made through the wall (49) of said second case (20);

a source (23) suitable for delivering electrical energy to an output terminal (24), said source (23) being disposed in the inside (25) of the second case (20);

an electronic control circuit (26);

means (27) for associating the first and second cases (1, 20) in such a manner that the first and second electrical connection passages (4, 21) form a single leakproof third electrical connection passage (28);

a flow meter (29) disposed inside the duct (14), said flow meter having an outlet (30) suitable for delivering an electrical signal representative of the flow rate of fluid passing along the duct (14);

a first electrical connector (31) for connecting the output (30) of the flow meter (29) to a first input (32) of the electronic control circuit (26);

a second electrical connector (33) for connecting a first control output (34) of the electronic control circuit (26) to the control input (11) of the motor (10) for driving the impeller; and

a third electrical connector (35) for connecting the electrical energy source (23) to a power supply input (36) of the electronic control circuit (26);

said electronic control circuit (26) further including an output (37) suitable for delivering a first alarm signal when the level of electrical energy delivered by said source (23) drops below a determined threshold value, a converter controllable from a control input (51), said converter being adapted to transform an electrical signal into a sound signal; and a fifth electrical connector (52) for connecting the control terminal (51) of the converter (50) to that output (37) of the electronic control circuit that is adapted to deliver said first alarm signal, said converter (50) being situated in said duct (14) so that the converter (50) is directly inside the fluid flowing in the duct.

2. A ventilator unit according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that said electronic control circuit (26) is located inside the second case (20).

3. A ventilator unit according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that it further comprises:

a switch (40) mounted in leaktight manner through the wall (41) of the first case (1) so that its control element (42) is accessible from the outside (15) of the first case (1) and its electrical control terminals (43) are situated in the inside (13) of the first case (1); and

a fourth electrical connector (44) for connecting the electrical control terminals (43) of said switch (40) to a control input (45) of the electronic control circuit (26).

4. A ventilator unit according to claim 2, characterized by the fact that it includes an electrical connection pin (22) mounted in leaktight manner through the wall (49) of the second case (20), the output terminals (46) thereof being situated in the inside (25) of said second case (20) and being connected respectively to an energy feed input (47) of said energy source (23) and to a control input (48) of the electronic control circuit (26).

7. A ventilator unit according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that said converter (50) is constituted by at least one of the following elements: a buzzer, a loudspeaker.

8. A ventilator unit according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that said filter cartridge (5) is constituted:

by a filter pellet (60) for filtering first particles of a given size, said pellet (60) covering said inlet opening (2) of the first case (1) in full; and

a cap (61) covering said pellet (60) in such a manner that the pellet is situated between the cap and the inlet opening (2) of the first case, said cap including filter orifices (62) for filtering second particles of a size greater than the size of the first particles.

9. A ventilator unit according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that it includes means (18) for making a fluid connection between the end (19) of said duct (14) situated outside said first case (1) with an inlet for feeding the inside of said garment with fluid.

10. A ventilator unit according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that it includes a flow regulator circuit suitable for delivering a second alarm signal when the fluid flow rate in the duct (14) varies by a determined quantity about a given nominal flow rate value.

11. A ventilator unit according to claim 10, characterized by the fact that it includes means for applying said second alarm signal to the control terminal (51) of said converter (50).

12. A ventilator unit according to claim 10, characterized by the fact that said flow rate regulator circuit is disposed in said first case (1).

13. A ventilator unit according to claim 2, characterized by the fact that it further comprises:

a switch (40) mounted in leaktight manner through the wall (41) of the first case (1) so that its control element (42) is accessible from the outside (15) of the first case (1) and its electrical control terminals (43) are situated in the inside (13) of the first case (1); and

a fourth electrical connector (44) for connecting the electrical control terminals (43) of said switch (40) to a control input (45) of the electronic control circuit (26).

14. A ventilator unit according to claim 3, characterized by the fact that it includes an electrical connection pin (22) mounted in leaktight manner through the wall (49) of the second case (20), the output terminals (46) thereof being situated in the inside (25) of said second case (20) and being connected respectively to an energy feed input (47) of said energy source (23) and to a control input (48) of the electronic control circuit (26).

15. A ventilator unit according to claim 13, characterized by the fact that it includes an electrical connection pin (22) mounted in leaktight manner through the wall (49) of the second case (20), the output terminals (46) thereof being situated in the inside (25) of said second case (20) and being connected respectively to an energy feed input (47) of said energy source (23) and to a control input (48) of the electronic control circuit (26).

16. A ventilator unit according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that said converter (50) is constituted by at least one of the following elements: a buzzer, a loudspeaker.

17. A ventilator unit according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that it includes a flow regulator circuit suitable for delivering a second alarm signal when the fluid flow rate in the duct (14) varies by a determined quantity about a given nominal flow rate value.

18. A ventilator unit according to claim 11, characterized by the fact that said flow rate regulator circuit is disposed in said first case (1).

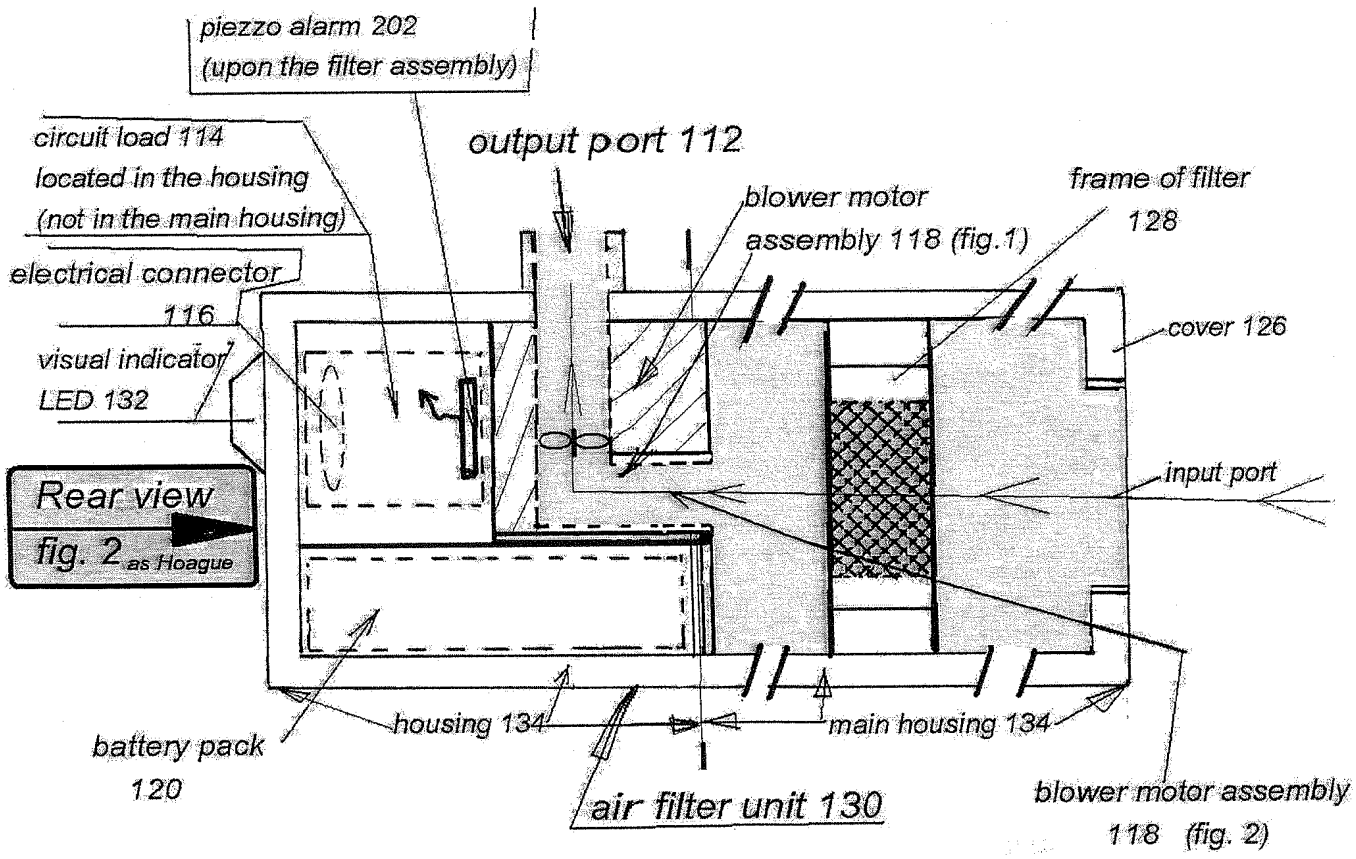
EVIDENCE APPENDIX:

Schematic showing an exploded longitudinal cross-sectional view of HOAGUE's device, based on Figures 1 and 2 of HOAGUE.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX:

None.

ANNEXED SCHEME



With this view, it is very clear that :

the piezzo alarm 202 is in front of the external wall of the blower and not in the duct in which is flowing the air,

as in the Ozil's invention.

In yellow : the path of the air between the input port and the output port 112